DETAILED ACTION

Per Applicant's Request for Continued Examination
Claims 16 and 23 have been amended.
Claims 1-9 have been canceled.
Claims 10-30 have been pending.

Per Examiner's Amendments
Claims 10, 16 and 23 have been amended.

Claims 10-30 are allowed.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

I.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in

37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is

eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e)

has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to

37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/27/2010 has been entered.

Examiner's Amendment

II.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

        The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 10 (Examiner Amended): A system of managing a configuration database within a network management program for a SONET ring network, the system comprising:

a plurality of managed objects representing logical representations of network entities <u>containing hardware processors</u> that can be configured and modified through transactions executed by the network management program, wherein one or more of the managed objects include an object reference and a storage location pointer to another of the managed objects, the another of the managed objects being accessed by a combination of the object reference and the storage location pointer associated with the one or more of the managed objects;

an agent process that receives transaction commands from a command handler;

a database manager that receives the transaction commands from the agent process;

a database file that stores commands from the database manager; and

a transaction log file that stores actions included within transactions issued by the database manager.

Claim 16 (Examiner Amended): An apparatus for managing a configuration database within a network management program for a computer network, the apparatus comprising:

<u>a hardware processor of the apparatus embodying:</u>

a loader module for loading a plurality of managed objects into system memory of the computer network upon a start-up event of the computer network<u>,</u>

wherein a first one of the managed objects includes object reference information and pointer information in order to access at least a second one of the managed objects;

an agent process for creating new transactions or opening existing transactions affecting one or more of the managed objects modified by the transactions;

<u>a database manager that receives the transaction commands from the agent process;</u>

<u>a database file that stores commands from the database manager;</u>

a transaction saving module for saving the transactions in non-volatile memory; and

a recovery module for restoring previous transactions executed prior to a failure condition.

Claim 23 (Examiner Amended): A system of managing a configuration database within a network management program for a SONET ring network including an active network coupled in parallel to a standby network, the system comprising:

a plurality of managed objects representing logical representations of network entities <u>containing hardware processors</u> that can be configured and modified through transactions executed by the network management program, wherein at least a first one of the managed objects includes object reference information and pointer information in order to access at least a second one of the managed objects;

an agent process that receives transaction commands from a command handler;

a database manager that receives the transaction commands from the agent process;

a database file that stores commands from the database manager in the active network;

a transaction log file that stores actions included within transactions issued by the database manager; and

a synchronization manager that writes the actions included within the transactions to a synchronization database stored on the standby network.

Reasons for Allowance

III. This communication warrants no Examiner's reason for allowance, as the BPAI Decision of 11/2/2010 and Applicant's reply filed 12/27/2010 make evident the reason for allowance, satisfying the record as whole as required by rule 37 CFR 1.104 (e). In this case, the substance of Applicant's comments in the Remarks filed on 12/27/2010 with respect to the limitations of independent claims 10, 16 and 23 specifically, "a plurality of managed objects representing logical representations of network entities containing hardware processors that can be configured and modified through transactions executed by the network management program, wherein one or more of the managed objects include an object reference and a storage location pointer to another of the managed objects, the another of the managed objects being accessed by a

combination of the object reference and the storage location pointer associated with the one or more of the managed objects; an agent process that receives transaction commands from a command handler; a database manager that receives the transaction commands from the agent process; a database file that stores commands from the database manager; and a transaction log file that stores actions included within transactions issued by the database manager" (as recited in independent claims 16 and 23 in different capacities, see Specification pages 4 and 12-21) sufficiently present reasons the claims are patentable over the prior art. Thus, the reason for allowance is in all probability evident from the record and no statement of an Examiner's reason for allowance is necessary (see MPEP 13202.14).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

IV. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KRISTIE D. SHINGLES whose telephone number is (571)272-3888. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am-6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Firmin Backer can be reached on 571-272-6703. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kristie D. Shingles/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2448